

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JIDDA 05659 161536Z

45

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O 161443Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5621

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 5659

STADIS/EXDIS////////////////////////////////////

EYES ONLY SECRETARY AND ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, LE
SUBJECT: MISSION TO CHRISTIAN-CONTROLLED LEBANON

REF: STATE 202843

1. JOSEPH O. EBLAN, FSO-3, FLUENT ARABIC, PREPARED AND WILLING PERFORM MISSION TO CHRISTIAN-CONTROLLED LEBANON. EBLAN OF LEBANESE ORIGIN AND FEELS IN PHYSICAL APPEARANCE HE CAN BLEND INTO SCENE EASILY WITHOUT ATTRACTING ATTENTION.

2. HE REQUESTS THAT IN INTEREST OF SAFETY NO ONE REPEAT NO ONE IN LEBANON BE INFORMED OF VISIT PRIOR TO ARRIVAL. REASONS FOR THIS ARE DESPERATION OF PLO AND OTHER PALESTINIAN MOSLEM GROUPS AFTER TEL ZAATAR FALL AND PROBABLY PLO OR HABASH AGENTS ON CHRISTIAN SIDE. LATTER LIKELY ATTEMPT DISRUPT MISSION.

3. ONLY TELEPHONE NUMBER NEEDED IS THAT OF KHOURY WHO EBLAN WILL CONTACT AFTER ARRIVAL. SECURITY ESCORT WILL NOT BE NEEDED IF DEPT CONCURS.

4. THUS NO REPEAT NO OTHER ARABS SHOULD BE INFORMED, IN EBLAN'S VIEW AND MINE, PRIOR TO HIS ARRIVAL. US EMBASSIES ALSO SHOULD BE INSTRUCTED TO WITHHOLD INFO FROM HOST GOVERNMENTS UNTIL EBLAN INDICATES HE WELL ENOUGH ESTABLISHED IN CHRISTIAN LEBANON TO INCUR RISKS OF DISCLOSING HIS PRESENCE.

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5. EBLAN WOULD PREFER TO PICK UP HIS INSTRUCTIONS IN NICOSIA
WHICH WOULD TEND TO CUT DOWN RISKS OF LEAKS WHICH MIGHT
OCCUR WERE HE TO TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON.
PORTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 16 AUG 1976
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Disposition Event:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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